OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Alexander, W.

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

February 17, 1964

BY COURIER SERVICE

Honorable J. Lee Rankin
General Counsel
The President's Commission
200 Maryland Avenue, N. E.
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Rankin:

Reference is made to our letter of February 11, 1964, reporting results of our interview on February 8, 1964, with Mr. Alonzo F. Hudkins III, also known as Lonnie Hudkins. Mr. Hudkins is the reporter who wrote an article in the Houston "Post" entitled "Oswald Rumored as Informant for U.S." During our interview with Mr. Hudkins on February 8, 1964, he refused to identify the source of his information that Oswald was on the payroll of either the Federal Bureau of Investigation or the Central Intelligence Agency. He claimed he was told this by a Government official, not a Federal official, in Dallas, Texas.

For your information, Assistant District Attorney William Alexander was interviewed by this Bureau January 25, 1964, in this matter. Mr. Alexander told us that he was acquainted with Lonnie Hudkins and that Hudkins had contacted him sometime in December, 1963, and had indicated he was working on a real good story, trying to prove that Oswald was an informant for the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Central Intelligence Agency or some governmental agency. According to Mr. Alexander, Hudkins stated he had received information that Oswald's address book, which had been seized by the police, had Agent Hosty's or Hasty's name and the telephone number of the local Federal Bureau of Investigation office and possibly a license number of an automobile.

Mr. Alexander further advised that Lonnie Hudkins then asked him if this did not mean that Oswald was an informant of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Mr. Alexander stated he told Mr. Hudkins that he did not know anything about Oswald being an informant. Mr. Alexander stated that when Hudkins questioned him about the entry in Oswald's address book, Alexander told Hudkins "It looks like you have the story there." Mr. Alexander denied making any further statements to Hudkins.

For your information, during our interview with Mr. Alexander on January 25, 1964, he informed us that he had appeared before the President's Commission on January 24, 1964, in Washington, D. C., and that he had told the Commission that he had no information as to Oswald being an informant for the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Central Intelligence Agency or any other governmental agency. He stated he did point out to the Commission that in an address book of Oswald's seized by the police Agent Hosty's name appeared along with many others. Mr. Alexander also told us that during his meeting with the Commission January 24, 1964, he told Chief Justice Warren and you that on the afternoon of January 21, 1964, after conclusion of the bond hearing in Dallas for Jack Ruby and while the reporters were waiting for some statements from the judge, there were a number of reporters talking about the possibility that Oswald was a counterspy for the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Central Intelligence Agency or some governmental agency. He added that he also stated that he recalled hearing the words "special service" and also remembered some reporter making a statement that Oswald was possibly on the payroll of the Government at $200 a month, beginning September, 1962, and that he heard payroll number 179 or voucher 179 mentioned.

For your additional information, we reinterviewed Mr. Alexander February 13, 1964, in a further effort to pin him down on his source of the allegation that Oswald may have been a counterspy for the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Central Intelligence Agency or some governmental agency and was on the payroll of the Government. Mr. Alexander claimed that he overheard a number of reporters discussing the possibility that Oswald was a counterspy for the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Central Intelligence Agency or some governmental agency and that he remembers hearing some reporter make the statement that Oswald

was supposedly on the payroll of the Government at $200 a month, beginning September, 1962, and had payroll number 179 or voucher 179. Mr. Alexander stated that he has no idea as to the source of this information and that he considered it only rumor at the time. He further stated that when he heard this discussion there were present a number of reporters and that he has no idea who originated the remark.

During our interview with Mr. Alexander at this time we asked him if he could supply the name of anyone who might be the originator of these false allegations, and he stated he could not. He further stated that much speculation and rumors of all kinds concerning Oswald have cropped up from time to time and that he had reached the point of not paying any attention to them.

In conclusion Mr. Alexander stated that should he determine the identity of the originator of these false allegations he would immediately notify this Bureau.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover